Increase in accidents involving helicopters

444. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in recent times accidents of helicopters are increasing every year;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to stop such incidents;

(c) whether the private aviation companies are neglecting the basic rules and regulations, the neglects of which caused the severe accidents;

(d) if so, the action taken by Government against them; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to monitor all private aviation companies' helicopters from time to time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. As compared to three accidents in the year 2007 only two accidents each were reported in the years 2008 and 2009 (till date).

(b) Safety recommendations emanating from investigation of incidents are followed up for implementation with the concerned agencies for preventing recurrence of such incidents in future. To avoid air accidents, various accident prevention programmes have been initiated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), which include safety audits, surveillance inspections, dissemination of safety information, issue of Air Safety Circular/ Civil Aviation Requirements, etc.

(c) to (e) The compliance of the Basic Rules and Regulations of the Private Aviation Companies are checked during safety audit/ surveillance inspection. Action is always taken against the defaulters if any deviation is observed during such inspections.

Proposals from Andhra Pradesh Government

445. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received in the Ministry from Andhra Pradesh Government during the last two years;

(b) the decision/action taken on each of those proposals;

(c) whether any of these proposals are pending with the Ministry; if so, the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) by when, these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) On the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Airports Authority of India (AAI) had conducted Feasibility Study of 8 sites identified by the State Government, namely, Nellore, Ongole, Tadepalligudem, Nizamabad, Bobbili, Kurnul, Ramagundam and Kothagudem. The Feasibility Reports were forwarded to the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 3.6.2008 for further action.